

REMARKS

Applicant is in receipt of the Examiner's Answer mailed September 2, 2009. Claims 1, 12, 22-24, and 28 have been amended. Claims 5, 14, 26, and 29 have been cancelled. Claims 31-36 have been added. Therefore, claims 1, 3, 4, 6-12, 15-19, 22-25, 27, 28, and 30-36 are pending in this case. Reconsideration of the present case is earnestly requested in light of the following remarks.

In the present Examiner's Answer, claims 5, 6, 14, 15, 26, 29, and 30 were newly objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. While Applicant respectfully submits that the claims currently on appeal are allowable as written, Applicant has amended the claims to incorporate the allowable subject matter to expedite prosecution of this application. More specifically, Applicant has amended claims 1, 12, 22-24, and 28 to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claims 5, 14, 26, and 29. Additionally, newly added claims 31-36 correspond to the independent claims 1, 12, 22-24, and 28 with the allowable subject matter of claims 6, 15, and 30. Accordingly, Applicant submits that all of the present claims are allowable as written.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits the application is now in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is requested.

If any extensions of time (under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136) are necessary to prevent the above-referenced application(s) from becoming abandoned, Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extensions. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required or credit any overpayment to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel P.C., Deposit Account No. 50-1505/5646-00900/JCH.

Also filed herewith are the following items:

- ☐ Request for Continued Examination
- ☐ Terminal Disclaimer
- ☐ Power of Attorney By Assignee and Revocation of Previous Powers
- ☐ Notice of Change of Address
- ☐ Other:

Respectfully submitted,

/Jeffrey C. Hood/
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